

SUPPORT GROUPS

Someone to Lean On

Southeast Alabama Medical Center's support groups are here for you and your family. For more information, call us at (334) 712-3336 or log on to www.samc.org.

ALS Support Group

Date: Meets Quarterly
Time: 10 a.m.
Place: First floor conference room
Info: Sherry Sullivan, Physical Therapy, at (334) 793-8726

Better Breathers

Date: Third Tuesday each month
Time: 10 a.m.
Place: First floor conference room
Info: Cardiac Rehab at (334) 793-8025

Breast Cancer

Date: Second Thursday each month
Time: 6 p.m.
Place: First floor conference room
Info: (334) 712-3336 or 1-800-735-4998

Cancer Friends

For all cancer patients, their families and friends.
Date: Third Thursday each month
Time: 6 p.m.
Place: Seventh floor conference suite
Info: (334) 712-3336 or 1-800-735-4998

Caring Hearts

Date: Second Wednesday each month
Time: Noon
Place: Seventh floor conference suite
Info: Cardiac Rehab at (334) 793-8025

Crohn's Disease

Date: Last Thursday each month
Time: 6 p.m.
Place: First floor conference room
Info: (334) 712-3336 or 1-800-735-4998

Diabetes

Date: Meets quarterly
Time: 6 p.m.
Place: Seventh floor conference suite
Info: Diabetes Treatment Center at (334) 793-8854 or 1-800-223-0843

Fibromyalgia

Date: Third Monday each month
Time: 6 p.m.
Place: Private dining room
Info: Faye Brown at (334) 677-7625

G.I.F.T.S.

Growing Independent Families Through Support
Date: Meets every other month
Info: (334) 712-3336 or 1-800-735-4998

Grief

Date: Every Tuesday
Time: 6:30 p.m.
Place: Occupational Therapy room, first floor
Info: Behavioral Medicine at (334) 793-8858

ICD

Implantable Cardiac Defibrillator
Date: Meets monthly
Info: Tony Canalejo R.N., Cardiac Rehab, at (334) 793-8025

Parkinson's

Date: Second Thursday of each month
Time: 6 p.m.
Place: Seventh floor conference suite
Info: (334) 712-3336 or 1-800-735-4998

Prostate Cancer

Date: First Thursday of each month
Time: 7 p.m.
Place: Seventh floor conference suite
Info: (334) 712-3336 or 1-800-735-4998

Sjogren's Syndrome

Date: Third Monday every other month
Time: 10 a.m. to 11:30 p.m.
Place: First floor conference room
Info: Janis Monk at (334) 691-2723

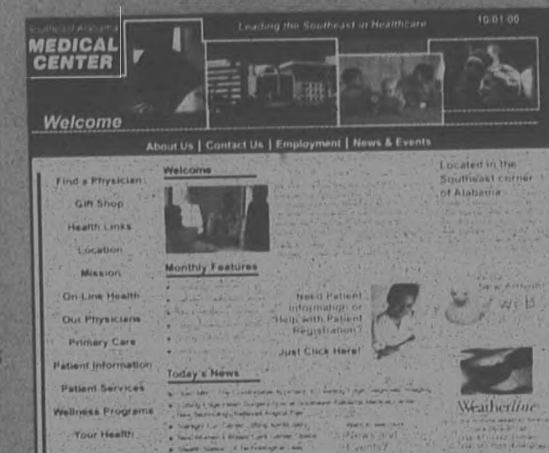
Stroke

Date: Fourth Thursday of each month
Time: 11:30 a.m.
Place: First floor conference room
Info: (334) 712-3336 or 1-800-735-4998

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www.samc.org

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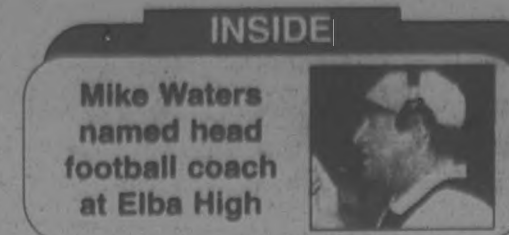
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Putting health information at your fingertips....

A free Medical Call Center directory, listing the four digit codes for more than 1,100 health-related topics, is available simply by calling the Medical Call Center (334) 712-3336 or 1-800-735-4998 and selecting option 3. You will be asked to leave your name, address and phone number.

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The Elba Clipper

Volume 105, Number 7

50 Cents

Elba, Alabama

Thursday, July 26, 2001

1 Section, 12 Pages Plus 1 Adv. Insert

During Elba City Council meeting

Dorsey gets \$2 million ADECA loan approval

by Ferrin Cox, Publisher

The Elba City Council voted to approve a short term ADECA \$2,000,000 float loan for Dorsey Trailers. The supporting resolution, passed Monday evening is the only involvement for the City of Elba. The actual low interest start-up loan, terms, repayment schedule, etc. are between The Dorsey Trailer Company and the Alabama Economic Development Office (ADECA). The paperwork for this loan is being handled by the SE Ala Regional Planning Commission and at no cost to the City of Elba.

The council also approved a resolution for a funding agreement on the local airport. This \$8,500 Department of Transportation (DOT) is a planning grant for work required to define the immediate and long range airport needs before proceeding with applications for

state and federal funds for repairs and/or expansion of the local airport.

At the request of Police Chief R. W. Whitworth and upon the recommendation of Mayor James Grimes, the council voted to take bids on a new DARE vehicle. According to Whitworth, the vehicle will be leased for three years and two local companies have agreed to pay the lease payments (sponsor the DARE program) for that time period. At the end of the lease, the City will be able to purchase the SUV type vehicle for about \$12,000, according to the chief.

DARE officer Dean Blair and the total DARE program came in for considerable praise from both the Chief and the Mayor. They noted that the local program goes above and beyond the basics requirements practiced in

Please See CITY, Page 3

Elba BOE rehires teachers for upcoming school year

by Ferrin Cox, Publisher

The Elba City School Board voted last Thursday on the rehiring of all tenured and non-tenured staff members who had not resigned or retired, with three exceptions. First year aides Janna Hutchison, Melissa Smith and Lance McCollough. Two of these were filling in for teacher aides who were on one-year leave of absence. There will be at least two additional staff hires. One of the new hires will be a high school teacher/coach and another will be a secretarial aide. Staff resignations at the high school approved by the board include Nancy Clark, high school English and Boyd English, Social Science coach. At the elementary school Sherry Butler, Gifted Education; and Karen Carlson, Special Education resigned. All four of these resignations were to accept employment in other school systems. New hires approved upon the recommendation of Superintendent Danny Weeks include Brenda Brooks and

Doris Nolin, both working in the child nutrition program; also Tiffany Germany was reassigned from receptionist to Secretary/Bookkeeper and Mike Waters was promoted to head football coach from his assistant coach position. Reassignments include Lakisha Brackin, gifted education (from 6th grade) and Amelia Rhoades was named head volleyball coach.

Board members formally adopted a state approved change in the sick leave policy. Now employees can accumulate unlimited sick leave time—up from the 225 days previously allowed. Weeks told board members that the Elba School System is losing funding on 4.5 teacher units in the coming school year, but through tough decisions, has been able to maintain the current level of teachers.

After the Columbine incident, I felt very frustrated with the position we were in," Fuller said. "If this program keeps someone's kid from being shot, the time we have put into it has been well spent."

Fuller said S.A.V.E. is somewhat designed after the

Please See BOE, Page 3

Speed leads county commission meeting

by Linda Hodge, Editor

Coffee County commissioners dealt with speed in more than one way Monday morning, July 23, during a regular bi-monthly meeting.

The commission entertained a request from a local citizen concerning traffic speeding on Coffee County Road 719 while at the same time zipping through the meeting's agenda in less than 30 minutes.

Randy Adkison, a county resident living on Coffee County Road 719, addressed the commission with his concern of early morning traffic using the road as a cut-through road to Ft. Rucker.

Adkison told commissioners that he would guess the average speed of traffic on the road between the hours of 6-8 a.m. is anywhere from 55 to 80 miles per hour.

"We're needing some help and I know you basically can't get speed bumps on a county road," Adkison said. "Anything y'all can do to help us on County Road 719, we would appreciate."

During his comments, Commissioner Doug Dalrymple said that speeding is occurring on the highway as well and not just one road. He said there have been several complaints of speeding all over the county.

"I would like for us to ask the sheriff to step up his appearance on roads," Dalrymple said. "Maybe check things and see if

these people are speeding."

The commissioners opened and awarded a bid for the sewage systems at the Damascus and Pine Level Senior Citizen Centers.

Three bids were received for this project, and Commissioner Robert Stephens made a motion which received a second from Commissioner Linda Westbrook to accept the low bid from Russell Construction of Elba in

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Area Happenings

ELBA HIGH SCHOOL ORIENTATION Elba High School 7th Grade Orientation will be Thursday, July 26, at 6 p.m. in the high school auditorium. Students and parents are encouraged to attend. Students will pick up schedules, rent lockers and establish lunch accounts. Also, the students will have an opportunity to visit their classrooms.

COMMUNITY BAND CONCERT The Southeast Alabama Community Band will hold a concert Monday evening, July 30, at 7 p.m. at the Elba High School Auditorium. The band is conducted by Dr. John M. Long. The concert is open to the public, and admission is free.

Elba Marching Tiger Band prepares for upcoming season



MUSIC IN THE AIR... Although they are practicing in the above photo without instruments, the sound of music has been heard at times during the past week in Elba as the Elba Marching Tiger Band has begun preparation for the upcoming marching season. Band members began work last week with the annual "Rookie Camp" and this week has found all members working hard during Band Camp to get things ready for another successful year. Each year, the band puts forth a lot of hard work, sweat and tears in making the program better than ever. Above, band members learn their positions for part of the halftime show. The number of hours the band students will spend practicing moves such as the one above during the upcoming marching season is unknown, but the look of dedication is already evident on each and every student's face.

S.A.V.E. program designed to prevent school

by Linda Hodge, Editor

Local law enforcement and school systems in Coffee and Pike counties recently began the implementation of a new program that is designed to prevent violence in the school systems and among school aged children.

Mark Fuller, district attorney for the 12th Judicial Circuit, presented ideas for the S.A.V.E. Program (Students Against Violence in Education) to local law enforcement, school personnel and the media last Thursday, July 19, during a luncheon at Tartan Pines in Enterprise.

After the Columbine incident, I felt very frustrated with the position we were in," Fuller said. "If this program keeps someone's kid from being shot, the time we have put into it has been well spent."

Fuller said S.A.V.E. is somewhat designed after the

Crimestoppers program in that

students have available to them a toll-free hotline number to call to report knowledge of a school crime, possession of drugs or anything that is deemed as an unsafe activity and should not be going on at the school.

He said the hotline is manned 24 hours a day—7 days a week, and the caller will remain anonymous.

"This program should be a resource to provide schools with information concerning dangers coming into the school," said Fuller.

Therefore, he said the objective of the program is to reward students with monetary or in-kind compensation for information which alerts school officials to any potential dangers such as violence, handguns, weapons, drugs, etc. that may lead to tragic situations at the school facility.

The reward for students will be determined by S.A.V.E. board members and can be up to \$300. For younger children,

Fuller said the reward could be in the form of savings bonds, clothes, etc.

The S.A.V.E. program is being coordinated through the Coffee County Family Services Center, according to Fuller.

Last week, he and other S.A.V.E. officials were meeting with school system personnel, law enforcement and media to discuss the program and build upon ideas for ways to help make the program successful

and be sure people know it exists. Fuller said in the coming weeks, he will be going to each individual school in Coffee and Pike counties to discuss the program.

"We want to get people involved and make this a grass-roots program," said Fuller. "I look at this as an individual responsibility."

He said he believes it is each and every person's responsibility in Coffee and Pike counties to do whatever necessary to help ensure the safety of the children, and he hopes S.A.V.E. is a positive step in that direction.

The concept of the program is for the student to call the toll-free number for S.A.V.E. where an operator will fill out a report from the student's call. The operator will then assign the call an identification number which is given to the student, and the student will give the operator a password. That password is assigned to the identification number. The student will need to remember both the call identification number and his/her password.

After the call is complete, the operator will report the information to the school representative. If the information proves to be legitimate, the identification number is posted on a bulletin board at the particular school.

Fuller said once the student who reported the incident sees his/her call identification number on the bulletin board, he/she will contact the school representative. The student will give the school representative the call identification number and password. If both the call identification number and the password are correct, the student is presented the reward which was

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State and county traffic fatalities decrease in 2000

The American Association of Motor Vehicle Administrators recently recognized Alabama for achieving the largest reduction in traffic deaths among AAMVA Region II states during 2000. Region II includes 14 southern states, the U.S. Virgin Islands and Puerto Rico.

The number of traffic deaths in Alabama decreased by approximately 14 percent last year, according to the Alabama Department of Public Safety. Traffic fatalities totaled 990 in 2000, a reduction of 158 from 1,148 traffic deaths reported in 1999.

"Alabama has the best and brightest in law enforcement, and their skill is clearly making a difference in public safety for all of our citizens," said Gov. Don Siegelman.

"Through continuing enforcement and safety education efforts, Alabama's law enforcement and traffic safety agencies are working to reduce the incidence of traffic crashes and their tragic consequences," said Col. James H. Alexander, Public Safety director. He said DUI,

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speed and safety belt enforcement would continue to be areas of emphasis for trooper enforcement activity.

Alexander said intensive enforcement of the state's primary safety belt law and the corresponding increase in safety belt use had a positive effect on traffic safety in Alabama last year. Enforcement of the primary law began in December 1999. During the first full year of enforcement, surveys showed statewide safety belt use increased from 58 percent in 1999 to 71 percent in 2000.

Many lives could be saved if more Alabamians would buckle up, according to Alexander. Of 990 traffic fatalities reported during 2000, 875 were vehicle occupants (excludes pedestrian).

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EDITORIAL

BRAINSTORMS

With Ferrin Cox

Road rage doesn't just happen "over yonder." One day last week it happened right here on Buford Street in Elba, Alabama. The lead driver didn't signal a left turn exactly according to the book, (actually didn't signal at all). However the trailing driver was also not exactly right the way he (or she) was turning left. Anyway, driver number 2 sped up, jumped the curb at the next block, all while trying to get ahead, get back at, or whatever, but it was a classic example of road rage and someone could have been hurt in an exchange that was absolutely unnecessary. We have no idea exactly which driver won that battle, but it is doubtful the direction of the world was changed one bit because of the battle that took place on the streets of Elba last week.

Hey folks, of George W. came through and we got our IRS refund check this week, and for the full amount promised! Here is one occasion that having a low ending social security number paid off by getting us at the front of the line for something before it all ran out. There have been a lot of ideas floated around about what to do with the extra money, and each idea sounds good. They range from the local man who had his in a savings account before noon Monday plus the folks who plan to pay some outstanding bills, buy something for themselves or some special person, to the story we liked and adopted, "I promised to cover those overdrafts at the bank just as soon as the check arrives!" Of course if there is more than one bank overdraft, it will take a bit of check kiting to cover all bases and not have one banker catch you in a lie on that particular story. Whatever, we appreciate this payment for voting Bush in the November election and are happy some of our Democratic friends are getting a payment also. . . . we want to help everyone, even the "other side." You know, we are willing to bet you, that money will spend just as well, and with little or no discrimination, for Democrats, Republicans or us Independents (sometimes called swing voters).

We continue to hear reports of killer bees attacking people and this isn't a movie plot, but reality. The Africanized bees that escaped an experiment in South America some years ago have continued to spread northward and hit the United States several years ago. Last week in Nevada and Arizona they struck against humans again. In Nevada one horse is dead and a couple of others suffering. The man who tried to rescue them is in the hospital, but expected to live. The man who raised bees across the road was shocked to think that his bees might have done that damage, but upon inspection found all his domestic honey bees had been killed. In the Arizona case an elderly man was attacked while working in his garden. One landed on his head and after he swatted that one, the swarm struck. Doctors later removed three embedded in one of his ears. It is a scary situation and could happen here (some folks say it will sooner or later). At least those of us who talk bad about kudzu, which is also an import from a foreign country, can keep fighting it or just move away, but those unlucky enough to be exposed to the African killer bee should consider themselves lucky if they make it to the hospital. There is the experimenter who first imported these things to South America. The last we read about him, the scientist still has nightmares about the swarms that escaped his outdoor lab and continue to make their aggressive, negative mark on the Western world.

It is almost time for the public schools to reopen, in spite of the shock to yours truly and the happy children who think their fun time has just begun. The loud sighs of relief you are hearing are from the large number of school teachers who are just now beginning to hear they will actually have a school teaching job again this year. More than one teacher has called our office seeking information about when the school boards were going to make the announcements. In the conversations we often hear comments like, "If you hear of anything, let me know. I have children to feed and will flip hamburgers if necessary." We laugh with them at these statements, but folks it must be terrible to not have any confidence that your job will exist tomorrow. While we don't have the answer to eliminating this recurring problem, you can put us with those who are crying for correcting the system. This doesn't necessarily mean dumping more money in the pot for Paul Hubbard and the school boards to fight over, it doesn't necessarily mean cutting pay and/or benefits, increasing or decreasing classroom size, etc. Our limited brain sees a crying need for improving the overall system of management and urges those of you with the ability to solve this problem to get on with the job at hand . . . and do it soon.

ELBA GENERAL HOSPITAL REPORT

Elba General Hospital had the following patients admitted during the time period of July 16, 2001, through July 22, 2001. They were: Roy Henderson, Carol Harbuck, Becky Prescott, Lenora Burks, Agnes Mack, Cedric Benton, Sam Harris, Mary Nell James, David Beckworth, Betty Driggers, Marvin Bradshaw, Pettie Lee Wambles, Jack Cordie, Sean Warren, Annie Griffin, Sheila Magwood, Jimmy Johnson and

Reyanta Caldwell.

Persons discharged during the same time period were: Michael Brown, LaTrina Thomas, Ella Mae Bennett, Paul Smart, Lenard McBride, Betty Prescott, Betty Dewberry, Roy Henderson, Carol Harbuck, Cedric Benton, Lenora Burks, David Beckworth, Sean Warren, Agnes Mack, Mary James, Jack Cordie, Betty Driggers, Marvin Bradshaw and Pettie Lee Wambles.

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SUBSCRIPTION RATES

Coffee County & Surrounding Counties - \$17 per year
6 Months - \$9, including city & state tax
Alabama Counties - \$19 per year - including tax
6 months - \$10
Outside Alabama - \$21 per year - 6 months - \$11

Friendship makes life more enjoyable

by Linda Hodge, Editor

Last weekend a friend (let's call her Penny) and I held a birthday

cookout for another friend (let's call her Amy) who turned

30 on Wednesday, July 25.

We all seemed to have a good

time as we joked and carried on

about the upcoming birthday. Of

course, it was all in good nature

as Amy continuously reminded

us that our 40th birthdays were

still ahead, and she would not

forget.

Being the youngest of the

three, I have always enjoyed ter-

rorizing the rest of them by con-

stantly reminding them of our

age difference. However,

through the years, even I have

getting older, change a few

things.

They tell me often that I am

getting mushy with age, and I

guess you could say they are

right because I have noticed a

trend of my being a bit nicer to

everyone rather than always being

the "L'il Blonde Snit" which

anyone called me.

With these things I have men-

tioned and the million other

good examples in mind of why

friendship is such a wonderful

part of life, I cannot understand

why people take advantage of

friendship.

Several times lately, I have

had conversations with one per-

son or another that was upset

because of something another

person had done to them or said

about them.

My question is why anyone

would take advantage of such a

wonderful thing as friendship

and turn it into a way to hurt

another person.

Life is tough enough without

going out and personally trying

to make things more difficult for

another person.

I consider myself to be lucky

because I know that I have found

some friends that will always be

there for me. Whether I need

someone to talk with or cry

with, all I have to do is call and

they will be there. And, the same

is true of me if they need any

thing.

So, last Saturday night, as I

was thinking about how tired I

was from the day's activities, all

I could do was smile because I

knew it was all worth the trouble

I had helped a friend enjoy an

event that is a happy occasion

in her life (or sad if she is wor-

ried while I still have five years

before I have to say hello to 30).

And, maybe, I helped make her

day just a little brighter!

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CITY (Continued from Page One)

many other communities. Whitworth also told council members that there is a need for an expanded dog pound for the city. He reported that the animal control officer continues to pick up about 40 dogs per week, or a total of 352 dogs in the first six months of the year. Only 41 of these were picked up by their owners and 105 were adopted.

The mayor reported on the financial condition of the city and had some good news and some bad news.

The good news is that the May sales tax receipts are up from the previous four months. The May check was for \$71,928.59 and this is up from the \$60,561 M of the previous four months.

The bad news was the increase of monthly sales tax collection charges. For January through April the total monthly charge was \$2,392, and the new rates will be \$4,900 for the same four months.

Grimes recommended Elba stay with the Alabama Department of Revenue for sales tax collections, in spite of a pending increase in collection fees to be charged by the state. The mayor explained that a 1998 law (pushed by private tax collection firms) requires the Department of Revenue to charge their actual expenses. This Elba's monthly cost will almost double. Grimes noted however that the private company Elba once used cost almost as

much and didn't offer nearly as much in the way of services. He added that they have no legal (collection) services available and charge \$65.00 an hour for any audits they do on behalf of the City of Elba. Grimes also noted that there were several problems with the private company which was collecting the tax when he took office.

The council authorized the advertising for bids to resurface several Elba streets. They also approved advertising for bids on the second phase of an in-town drainage upgrade project in the New Town area.

Grimes reported that paving is underway to repair Tiger Drive, which will be followed by repaving a one block area on Cordelia Street, right behind the new post office. The Tiger Drive project will include some work to reduce the moisture in the dirt under the street. The mayor also explained that the Cordelia Street work will require digging down six to eight inches and replacing the base before pouring the asphalt.

Mayor Grimes reported that the city's cash flow continues to be tight but the budget is doing okay, largely because city employees are diligent in their efforts to stay within their budgets.

City officials are planning future work sessions to review pay scale changes and the budget for the upcoming year.

BOE (Continued from Page One)

side maintenance contract, \$100,000, by absorbing 4.5 teacher unit salaries and benefits at the high school, absorbing an assistant principal, special education teacher and instruction aide at the elementary school.

Weeks also recommended the board grant Elementary assistant principal Lynn Irwin a one year leave of absence to work with the "Alabama Reading Initiative" with her salary to be reimbursed by the Troy State University In-Service Center. School will begin on August 1st and 2nd for teachers and on August 3rd for students.

Which has already been necessary to get through this school year. This money must be repaid, with interest.

The school system has some bond money for capital purpose projects only and this will be used to pave a parking lot at the elementary school. Weeks reminded board members, "I can't say we are financially sound but my attitude is 100% different than it was three months ago." Weeks told board members.

Weeks also recommended the board grant Elementary assistant principal Lynn Irwin a one year leave of absence to work with the "Alabama Reading Initiative" with her salary to be reimbursed by the Troy State University In-Service Center. School will begin on August 1st and 2nd for teachers and on August 3rd for students.

Blue Jeans for Babies Day set for August 24

The Wiregrass Area is going casual. From business attire to blue jeans. It's time for the 5th Annual Blue Jeans for Babies.

This year's Blue Jeans for Babies Day is Friday August 24th. Area businesses are asked to let their employees wear blue jeans to work on this day. There is only one catch. In order to wear blue jeans to work the employees are asked to buy the official Blue Jean's for Babies T-shirt for \$10 or the button for \$5.

Local sponsors help pay for the cost of the shirts by donating money to have their logo on the back of the shirt. Any business interested in being a sponsor should call Kimberly Lewis, March of Dimes Community Director, at 792-0149.

ATTENTION: FEN-PHEN USERS

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If you or a member of your family used the prescription diet drug PONDIMIN or REDUX, you may have certain legal rights that need to be protected.

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*No representation is made that the quality of legal services to be performed is greater than the quality of legal services performed by other lawyers.

Head 2 Toe Salon

Next to Factory Connection & Benton's • Elba

Customer Appreciation Day

Wednesday • August 1, 2001

1 - 6 p.m.

Refreshments • Door Prizes

Sweet Pea Gifts

Selected Items 25-75% Off

Britley, Julie, Angie and Tammy invite you to join them in celebrating Head 2 Toe Salon's 1st Anniversary!!!

Obituaries

RAYFORD JONES

Mr. Rayford "Ray" Jones, age 80, died July 13, 2001 in Daytona Beach, Fla. where he had lived since 1959.

He was a graduate of Auburn University and taught math at Seabreeze Junior High School in Daytona Beach, Fla. where he had lived since 1959.

He was an active member of Community United Methodist Church in Daytona until his death.

Funeral services were held on July 17, 2001 at Haigh-Black Funeral Home with Rev. Roger Moore officiating. Graveside services were held at Evergreen Cemetery in Elba on July 19, 2001 at 10 a.m. with Rev. John L. Baxter officiating and Hayes Funeral Home directing.

Mr. Jones was preceded in death by his wife, Nell Walker Jones and his mother-in-law Lena Ham Walker, both Elba natives. His sister, Miss Ruth Jones of New Hope, Ala. also preceded him in death.

Local survivors are: Carolyn Brunson, Elizabeth Jones, Sharon Ward, Sherrie Young and Marion Brunson. He is also survived by: Marylene Ham Strain of Waynesville, N.C., Jeannette Ham Huxford of Homerville, Ga. and Lila McDonald of New Hope, Ala.

DUDLEY D. LITTLETON

Mr. Dudley D. Littleton, age 92, of Elba, Ala., died July 21, 2001 at the Elba Nursing Home.

Mr. Littleton was a lifelong resident of Elba and Coffee County. He was a member of the Elba Baptist Church and the Elba Chapter of the United Daughters of the Confederacy.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Lela Littleton, who died in 1984.

He is survived by his daughter, Mrs. Lela Littleton, who died in 1984.

He is also survived by his son, Mr. Dudley Littleton, who died in 1984.

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ROSABEL MARTIN ALLEN

Mrs. Rosabel Martin Allen, age 93, of the Victoria Community, died July 21, 2001 at the home of her daughter in Dothan following an extended illness.

Mrs. Allen was the daughter of the late Henry E. and Edna Gertrude Wise Martin.

Funeral services were held July 23, 2001 at the Victoria Baptist Church with Rev. Mack King officiating. Burial followed in the Victoria Baptist Church Cemetery.

Survivors include three daughters: Myra Nell Williams and her husband Lloyd, and Edna Earl Logan and her husband Charles, all of Dothan; one granddaughter: Tanya Lloyd Damon and her husband David of Plano, Texas; two great-grandchildren: Justin E. Damon, Lubbock, Texas, and Mallory Lloyd Damon, Plano, Texas; one sister-in-law: Alvin Hudson, Defunk Springs, Fla.; and several nieces and nephews.

NAN FOLEY DRIGGERS

Mrs. Nan Foley Driggers, age 71, of 140 Larkin Road, Elba, Ala., died July 21, 2001 at St. Frances Hospital, Columbus, Ga.

Funeral services were held July 23, 2001 at New Ebenezer Baptist Church with Rev. Rick Ellison and Rev. Mike Medley officiating. Burial followed in the New Ebenezer Church Cemetery with Hayes Funeral Home directing.

Survivors include her husband, Mack Driggers, Elba; two sons: Mack Driggers, Jr., Eufaula, Tab Driggers, Elba; two sons: Mack Driggers, Jr., Eufaula, Tab Driggers, Elba; two sons: Mack Driggers

SPORTS

Views from....

THE PRESSBOX

By Ricky Mularz, Sports Editor

School starts in just over a week, and that means that both our girls are reminding us daily that they both are in dire need of new school clothes. Melanie has grown like a weed during the summer and has only a couple of pairs of shorts that even come close to fitting, and since they are all too short to wear to school, it looks like a long day of clothes shopping with our youngest. Big sister doesn't start college until late August. So, maybe our check book will have a chance to recover before she heads out to the mall. HELP!

PASSING IT ON....

Elba High School filled its head football coaching vacancy last week when Mike Waters was named as the new head man to lead the Tigers into battle. Waters had been named the interim head coach back several months ago and was expected to get the head job, but it didn't become official until last week. Coach Waters has been on the Elba staff for the past three years and understands the problems and the needs facing the Elba football program, and if hard work and dedication will help turn the program around, the Tigers have the right man leading the way. Coach Waters is a tireless worker, is dedicated to the players and the program, and is determined to field a winning team through hard work, self-confidence and sacrifice. The players that have been working in the off-season program have shown remarkable progress in strength and quickness, and the boost of confidence has already made the players more determined than ever to turn the Tigers back into winners. Coach Waters is no miracle worker and will undoubtedly make mistakes as he settles into the head coaching job. However, all Elba Tiger football fans need to rally behind our new head coach and let him know that we are behind him one hundred percent. Coach Waters will move to Elba this week, will live in Elba, shop in Elba and become a part of our community, and we need to let him know that together we can "ALL" work to help turn the program back around.

The hiring of Coach Waters marks the fourth time in the past seven years that the Elba Tigers have been under the guidance of a new head football coach. Former Elba Tiger head coach Mack Wood retired seven years ago after leading the Tigers to two state championships, and since his retirement, the Tigers have changed head coaches every two years. David Lowery held the post for two years and posted one winning record, while David Sikes and Julius Head also had two years on the job and both failed to post a winning record. The Elba Tigers have posted only one winning season since Coach Wood's retirement, and the merry-go-round of coaches certainly hasn't helped bring any kind of stability to the program. Maybe Coach Waters can survive the two-year jinx and will be the man to turn the program back around and put the Tigers back on top.

Two members of the Elba Lady Tiger softball team were in Montgomery last week to participate in the Alabama High School All-Star Week activities, and both Melissa Mularz and Roshanda McKinnon excelled in helping the South challenge the North in slow-pitch softball. Elba High has been a hot bed for softball talent for many years, and this year's duo brought the total number of girls that have been to the All-Star week to six. Not bad when you stop and consider the event is only five years old. Melissa Mularz was named the MVP of the South for her outstanding play in the two-game series, and she was the second Elba player to earn the honor. Chastity Williams was the very first South MVP back in 1997, which proves that the Elba girls are as good as any from anywhere in the state. Both Elba girls played well in the series and represented our city and school with pride and honor. Great job!

Registration is going kind of slow for the youth football league and cheerleading squads in Elba, but with the beginning of school just around the corner, coaches and sponsors are looking for the numbers to pick up. Elba fields three teams and three cheerleading squads for boys and girls ages 6-8, 9-10 and 11-12, and as the old saying goes.... "The more the merrier." Anyone who has a son or daughter that wants to take part should sign them up as soon as possible. The first game is set for September 8, and it will be here before you know it.

In closing.... Elba High grad and former Elba Tiger assistant coach Boyd English resigned his position last week to become an assistant principal at the Phenix City Middle School. Coach English was excited back when he was named to the staff at Elba High and vowed he was "home to stay" as he devoted countless hours to helping the students at Elba High both in the classroom and in athletics. Coach English completed his degree in administration in the spring and made the move that was best for him and his family when he accepted the post in Phenix City. I talked with him on the phone one night last week, and while I could tell he had mixed emotions about leaving, he and I both knew he was making a move he had to make. It was intended to advance in the field of administration. I know Boyd will succeed at his new post, and also know that Coach English will always be an Elba Tiger. Thanks, Coach, for coming back home and helping make our students and our city a little bit better than it was. Good luck!

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Promoted from interim head coach

Mike Waters named new head football coach at Elba High

Elba High School filled its head football coaching vacancy last week when it was announced that Mike Waters had been promoted from interim head coach to fill the position.

Waters, a member of the Elba Tiger coaching staff for the past three years, had been named interim head coach earlier this year after the resignation of Coach Julius Head.

"I am cautiously excited about being named head coach," stated Coach Waters, "and while I know it will be a big challenge, it is a challenge I am looking forward to tackling head on. The tradition of Elba Tiger football and the community support make this a position that would attract any coach in the state, and I am honored that the officials at Elba High School had the confidence in me to name me the head coach."

Waters, a native of Pike County, began his coaching career in 1978 at Carrabelle High School in Florida, as an assistant coach. Waters was named the head football coach at Carrabelle after a 1-9 record in '78, and in three years as the head coach led his team to an overall record of 21-9. In 1982, Waters was named as the defensive coordinator at Dunnellon High School in Florida, and helped guide the team to the state runner-up position in the state playoffs. Waters returned to Pike County the following year to take over the operation of the family farm after the death of one of his parents, but returned to coaching as an assistant coach at Elba High School in 1998, a position he held until being named interim coach.

"We took the first step back toward becoming a winning football team the Monday after the loss to Trinity last fall," said Coach Waters. "The players wanted to become better football players and have been working hard ever since to become bigger, faster and stronger. The players that have been dedicated and have stuck with the off-season program all feel good about themselves and know they are better football players now than they were a year ago. Winning starts with confidence and our players are now confident they can win football games."

"My coaching philosophy is for everyone on the team to play hard on every single play and to never lose because the other team worked harder than you did," added Waters. "Our goal this season will be to reduce our mistakes and cut out the mental errors. We have to be prepared when we take the field for a game, and that can only happen if we all work hard in practice and become sound in all areas. I will promise the people in Elba that no coach anywhere will ever out work me, our coaches or our players, and I encourage all Elba Tiger football fans to come out and support this team."

Coach Waters stated that the first day of preseason practice will be August 6, and the team will work out in shorts for three days before pulling on the pads for full-contact drills. "We have had around 20-25 players at workouts during the summer and expect around 30 players to be there when we start in August," said Waters. "We may not dress out as many players as some of our opponents, but the ones that do put on the black and gold will be dedicated, will play to win and will believe they can win every time they take the field."

Organizational meeting set for July 31 for Elba High varsity and junior varsity football players

Elba Tiger head football coach Mike Waters has announced that an organizational meeting for any students interested in playing varsity or junior varsity football at Elba High School this season will be held on Tuesday, July 31, at 7:00 p.m. at the Commons area at Elba High School.

All players are encouraged to have at least one parent present at the meeting, if possible, and for more information a student or parent may call Coach Waters at 897-2266 or 897-2122.

Registration still underway for youth football and cheerleaders

The Elba Department of Parks and Recreation is now conducting registration for the upcoming Tri-County Football League season for both players and cheerleaders.

Football registration is open

to boys ages 6-12, with teams to be divided into age groups of 6-8, 9-10 and 11-12. A player's age will be based upon his age on August 1, 2001.

Cheerleader registration is open to girls ages 6-12, and squads will be divided based on age, with the age groups being 6-8, 9-10 and 11-12. Age will be based upon a cheerleader's age on August 1, 2001.

A nominal fee is charged for both football and cheerleading. Registration forms are available at the Elba Department of Parks and Recreation office, located at 764 North Clayton Avenue. For more information, call the Recreation office at 897-6833.

Forms will also be available at the Elba Elementary School when school opens.

A camera will be provided to all reporters for use at the games, and all reporters will have to meet a strict deadline. Knowledge of a camera and writing skills will be helpful, but are not required.

Anyone wishing to work on a part-time basis during the 2001 high school football season should contact Ricky Mularz at 897-8201 (th) or by leaving a message at The Elba Clipper at 897-2823.

Elba High School football coach Amelia Rhoades (left) congratulates Elba's Melissa Mularz after the former Lady Tiger standout was named the South MVP in last week's All-Star Sports Week.

Elba's Mularz named South MVP

Elba High School softball standout Melissa Mularz participated in last week's Alabama High School All-Star Sports Week in the slow-pitch softball series, and was named the "Most Valuable Player" of the South team for her outstanding play at the series.

Mularz batted .500 in the two game series and pitched a total of 12 innings, where she recorded 11 assists without an error and struck out two batters.

"Melissa is a great young lady and a super softball player," stated South coach Jim Gibbs. "Our teams at Excel played against her the last two years at sub-state, and I knew coming in she would be the leader of our team here in Montgomery. She is very deserving of the MVP honor, and it was an honor for me to have the chance to coach such a fine player."

"I am excited for Melissa and for the Elba Lady Tiger softball program," added Elba softball coach Amelia Rhoades. "Melissa represented Elba High School at the All-Star week and to bring home the MVP award was truly an honor. I attended both games to show my support of both Melissa and Roshanda (McKinnon), and felt a great sense of pride when Melissa's name was announced as the South's most valuable player."

Mularz was a six-year starter for the Elba Lady Tigers in softball and has signed a scholarship with Enterprise State Junior College.

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COACH MIKE WATERS...pictured above during action last season, was named as the new head football coach at Elba High School last week. Waters had been on the Elba staff for three years as an assistant and had been the interim head coach since the retirement of Coach Julius Head.

Sports reporters needed for upcoming football season

The Elba Clipper will once again provide its readers with in-depth high school football coverage during the 2001 high school season, and part-time sports reporters will be needed to provide pictures and articles about upcoming teams.

Teams in the coverage area include Elba, New Brockton, Kingston, Zion Chapel and Brantley.

A camera will be provided to all reporters for use at the games, and all reporters will have to meet a strict deadline. Knowledge of a camera and writing skills will be helpful, but are not required.

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SPORTS



SOUTH ALL-STARS...The Alabama High School All-Star Sports Week was held last week in Montgomery, with two Elba High graduates included on the South roster. Pictured above (l-r) are South Head Coach Jim Gibbs, of Excel, and Elba standouts Melissa Mularz and Roshanda McKinnon.

Elba High duo participate in Alabama All-Star Sports Week

The Alabama High School Athletic Directors and Coaches Association held its fifth annual "Alabama High School All-Star Sports Week" last week in Montgomery, and included among the 300 student athletes from across the state chosen to participate in the five sports contested during the week's activities were Elba's Roshanda McKinnon and Melissa Mularz.

McKinnon and Mularz were both selected to represent "South" Alabama in slow-pitch softball, and both earned starting positions for the annual state softball series.

McKinnon, a 2001 graduate at Elba High, was a three-year starter for the Lady Tigers and was a standout at both the plate and in the outfield. McKinnon used her aggressive style of play to keep the pressure on her opponents and was a co-captain on the 2001 team.

Mularz, also a 2001 Elba High graduate, was a six-year starter for the Lady Tigers and was twice named to the Super

12 Prep Softball team as a pitcher. Mularz led the team in hitting the past three seasons and was a muniesty on the pitching rubber, where she pitched every single inning as a senior. Mularz signed a scholarship with Enterprise State Junior College to play fast-pitch softball.

The Lady Tiger duo combined for three hits and two runs scored in the opening game of the series, and were valuable members of the South team.

Other team members included Cassie Franks and Tara Pasley, of Southern Choctaw; Jessica Higginbotham and Megan Davenport, of Maplesville; Jessica Weathers and Robyn Johnson, of Red Level; Teresa Herring, of Highland Home; Erika Burton, of Excel; Tiffany Williams, of Equidale; Jessica Powell and Salli Farish, of Leroy; and Cole Terrell and Marilana Hornsby, of Reeltown. Coaches were Jim Gibbs, of Excel, and Will Solomon, of Reeltown. Administrative coach was Susan Barnes, of Elba.



MULARZ NAMED MVP...Elba Lady Tiger softball coach Amelia Rhoades (left) congratulates Elba's Melissa Mularz after the former Lady Tiger standout was named the South MVP in last week's All-Star Sports Week.

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Hansard rides into victory lane in 150 lap feature at SAS

By Mark Chism

South Alabama Speedway hosted the Super Late Models on Saturday night, July 14, and the crowd that showed up was treated to another outstanding race. Although the car count was down from past events, the quality of competition was still evident.

Lee Hansard last visited South Alabama Speedway last July. He scored his first victory in over nine years. After totaling his racer later in the year, his 2001 racing season has just begun. This was his second race of the season, and he knew where he wanted to go. Back to SAS and back to Victory Lane.

Hansard showed his strength early, setting the fastest time in qualifying with a time of 15.736. Hansard drew a three, meaning he would start third behind Ronnie Couture and track regular Royce Johnston. Couture got the jump on Johnston on the restart after the initial start was fouled when Jeff Morgan dropped a drive shaft.

Couture led the first five laps before fourth place starter Dan Beddingfield charged into the lead. Beddingfield, always a strong competitor at SAS, led the race until lap 34. A caution on the next lap closed the race. The three broke away from the pack and ran nose to tail over that period. The rest of the pack was having a different type race, with several position changes among them.

Coming out of turn four on the 67 lap, Hansard made his move to the inside of Beddingfield. Hansard completed the pass going into turn one and pulled out to a comfortable lead. Beddingfield tried to hold off Middlebrooks for second, but the Prattville driver was able to get by on lap 94. A caution on the next lap closed the race. Middlebrooks to Hansard's bumper, by the Tyrone, Georgia had two much on this night, and pulled away for his second victory in his career. It was the south Alabama oval.

Steve Crain, Jr. finished fourth. Johnston finished fifth, although suffering from a slipping clutch since the green flag. Sixth through tenth went to Keith Thorpe, Couture, Ed Baker, Brian Farley, and Lenny Foster.

In the 50-lap Super Stock Feature, Jody Henderson grabbed the lead on the first lap and never looked back, scoring his second straight win. Tommy Adams ran second all race. Bill Brown was awarded third place when Michael Rawls failed post race inspection due to an illegal rear end. Rick Northey was moved up to fourth, and David Ashley to fifth.

In the Alabama Dwarf Car Series Feature, Tim Moody led all 15 laps to take the win. Tim Armstrong crossed the line second. Jimmy McDonald, Robert Ham, and Gary Singleton rounded out the top five.

For more information, contact the speedway at (334) 565-3539, or visit the track's web site at www.southalabamasppeedway.com.

Men's softball tourney set for Clayhatchee

There will be a men's class C and below softball tournament Saturday, July 28, 2001 at the Clayhatchee Community Park. Cost to enter is \$115.00 per team. Each team must provide their own regulation softballs. 5 home run rule applies. Deadline to enter is July 26, 2001 at 6:00 p.m. There will be 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place trophies. To enter or for more information call Nancy at (334) 598-4322 or Lynn at (334) 598-2138.

SUPPORT ELBA TIGER ATHLETICS!!!! JOIN THE ELBA ATHLETIC CLUB TODAY!!
CALL 897-2266 TO JOIN



ELBA DIXIE YOUTH AMERICAN LEAGUE ALL-STARS...show off a trophy won recently at the Dixie Youth Baseball Sub-District 3 Tournament. The All-Stars claimed wins over Hartford 6-0 and 4-1 to move into the finals, but were defeated by Geneva 12-2 and settled for the runner-up position in the five-team event. The team was coached by Jim McCormick, Keith Boutwell and Phillip Roberts.

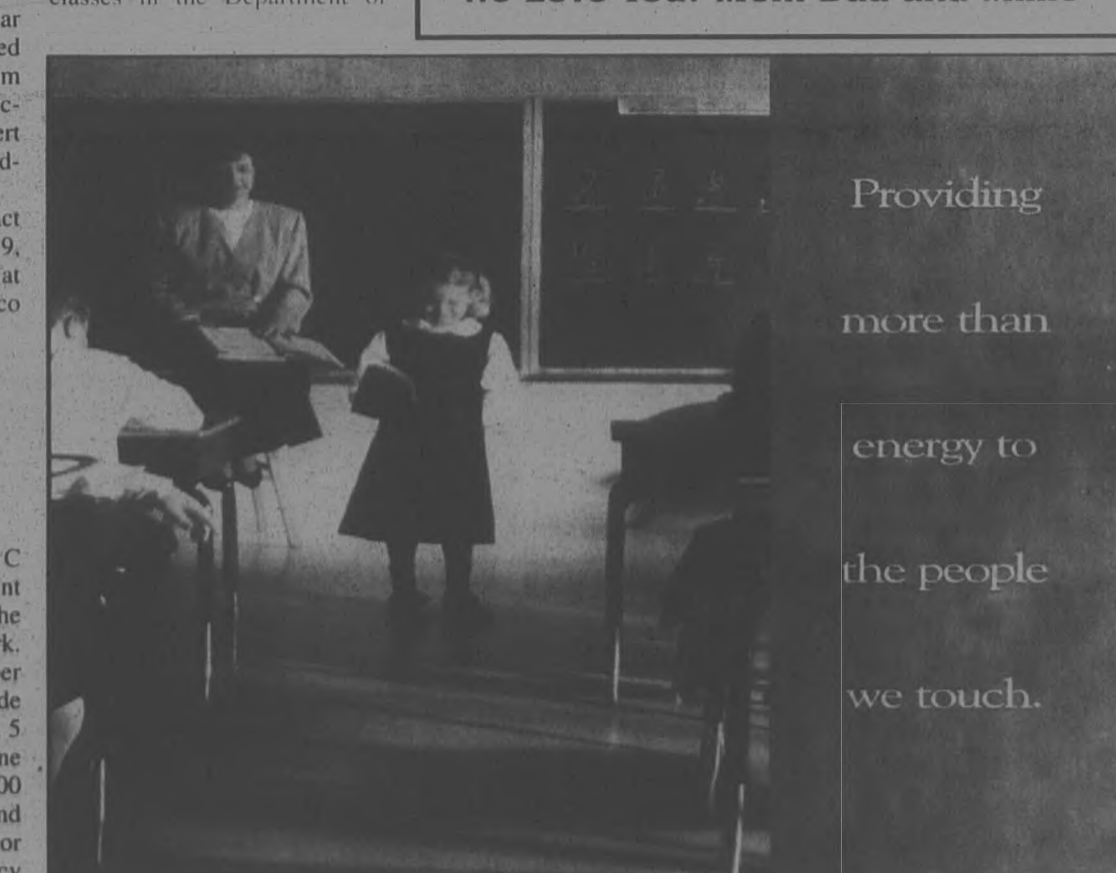
Messer named head basketball coach at ESJC

Dr. Stafford Thompson, president of Enterprise State Junior College, recently announced the appointment of Jimmy Messer to the position of basketball coach. Coach Messer brings seven years experience in a health and physical education instructor and coaching men's basketball on the two-year, NAIA, and NCAA Division II levels. Six of the seven teams with which he was an assistant won 19 games or better and four teams finished second or higher in their respective conferences beginning in August of 1997 at Alabama Southern Community College in Monroeville. With a regular season record of 22 wins and 8 losses, the team won the 1991-92 Alabama Junior College Athletic Association Southern Division Championship.

From August 1991 to August 1992, he served as head basketball coach at Monroe Academy. They had a regular season record of 17 wins and 7 losses. Messer left Monroe Academy for a two year stint at Columbus College in Georgia where he assisted the head coach with the everyday operations of the basketball program with an emphasis on recruiting. He also taught classes in the Department of Physical Education and Leisure Management as a graduate assistant. He helped lead the team to a two-year record of 32 wins and 23 losses. Rounding out his coaching experience was a four-year venture at the University of Mobile as assistant basketball coach. During this time he helped lead the Rams to an overall record of 92 wins and 44 losses.

Dilan Manring, a member of the Andalusia Swim Team. "The Stingrays," recently competed in swim meets in Troy, Eufaula, Andalusia, and Dothan. At these swim events Dilan received 3 First Place ribbons, 5 Second Place ribbons and 2 Third Place ribbons. His most recent competition was a District Meet held in Dothan where Dilan placed 3rd out of 17 swimmers and qualified for the State Competition to be held July 27 and 28.

'Good Luck Dilan!! We Love You! Mom Dad and Millie



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SERVICES

ELBA INSULATION CO. Residential or commercial. Blows-in Fiberglass Insulation. Call Earl Evans - 897-3630.

BAKER'S TREE SERVICE AND STUMP REMOVAL - 23 years of Experience. FREE ESTIMATES. Call 897-2271 after 6:00 p.m. 10-26-01.

NEED TO advertise statewide? ALASCAN can place your 25 word ad in 118 newspapers across Alabama for only \$195 (additional word \$7.50). Make us call to this newspaper (a participating ALASCAN member) to find out how easy it is to advertise statewide!

PAYMENT is by cash, check, credit card or 30-day charge with approved credit.

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Prepaid personal ads get fourth week FREE!
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Only \$300* per week (first 15 words) Additional words \$15.00 each

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HELP WANTED

YOUNG WORLD DAY CARE want part-time person to cook and work with children as needed. Must be neat, clean, trustworthy, dependable. His may vary 19 yrs. or older. Must have diploma. Call between 1:00 & 2:00. 897-2755. 5-24-01.

ABRUCCI, GROUND crew. Openings for handymen, electricians, machine and electronic technicians. Training will be provided. HS grads, ages 17-34. Call toll free 1-888-255-6289. M-F 8-4. 10-26-01.

AMAZING OPPORTUNITY! Get into CDL in 15 days. 50 out of pocket money. Transportation. Job. No. 1. 1-888-255-6289. M-F 8-4. 10-26-01.

AVON - LOOKING for higher income. More flexible hours. Independent. Avon has what you're looking for. Let's talk. 1-888-942-4053. (R) 7-26-01.

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HELP WANTED

DRIVERS TRAINEES needed. Werner Enterprises needs drivers. No. 1. 1-888-255-6289. M-F 8-4. 10-26-01.

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the amount of \$2,550. Other bids included Beckham Septic Tank of Enterprise for \$3,220 and Underground Utilities of Sanson for \$2,849.

Appointments were made to the Department of Human Resources Board. There were four board positions needing appointments. Receiving reap-

pointments were: Jeff Kelley in District 1, Doug Donaldson in District 6 and Gail Reynolds in District 7. For District 3, Commissioner Stephens recommended and the commission approved the appointment of Barbara Turner. Turner will replace Dr. Tony Dye, who no longer lives in the District 3 area.

In other business, the commission:

**Approved a resolution upon the recommendation of County Engineer Randy Tindell to send out bids for guard rails.

**Approved the appropriation of \$150 to help the Town of New Brockton with a project to redraw maps.

**Approved a resolution from the state that guarantees the county will put up 20 percent in matching funds for a walking trail around the New Hope Senior Center.

**Approved a resolution authorizing the county to sign a contract with the state concerning a job case aid position and child homemaker position through the Department of Human Resources. The positions are funded by the state and supervised by DHR.

Don't Forget...

School begins
Friday,
August 3, 2001

ELBA CITY BOARD OF EDUCATION announces the following vacancies for emergency hire as listed for the 2001-2002 school year.

Applications will be accepted beginning July 24, 2001 - July 30, 2001 for the following positions:

ELBA ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
Secretarial Aide

ELBA HIGH SCHOOL
Assistant Coach/Social Studies

Inquires should be made to:
Elba City Schools
131 Tiger Drive
Elba, Alabama 36323
334/897-2801

The Elba City Board of Education does not discriminate against any person on the basis of race, color, religion, gender, national origin, age or disability in any of its educational or employment programs or activities.

ans, and drivers and passengers of motorcycles and all terrain vehicles. DPS reports indicate approximately 61 percent of these vehicle occupants were not using safety belts.

Alexander added that the class of 47 troopers currently in training at the trooper academy in Selma will begin patrolling later this year, and motorists will notice an increased trooper presence as these officers work to improve highway safety in the state in the months and years to come.

Locally, Coffee County saw a decrease in traffic fatalities in 2000. There were four less traffic fatalities in the county with eight fatalities as compared to 12 traffic fatalities in 1999.

The surrounding counties of Covington, Crenshaw, Dale and Pike also saw decreases. Covington County had five traffic fatalities in 2000 as compared to 16 in 1999. Crenshaw County had five traffic fatalities in 2000 as compared to seven in 1999. Dale County had 10 traffic fatalities in 2000 as compared to 15 in 1999, and Pike County had nine traffic fatalities in 2000 as compared to 11 in 1999.

Geneva County, which is the only other county neighboring Coffee County, showed no change in traffic fatalities between 1999 and 2000 with seven fatalities each year.



SHERIFF SPEAKS TO LIONS...Coffee County Sheriff Ben Moates recently spoke to members of the Elba Lions Club during their monthly meeting. Sheriff Moates brought the members up-to-date on several things that have taken place with the sheriff's department since his first election in 1995. Some of the topics he discussed included the number of deputies within the department and the various duties required of the department - juvenile transportation and other sheriff's department positions. Sheriff Moates (center) is pictured above with Wayne Harrison (left) and Bob Glover (right).

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FALL REGISTRATION

Come and join us at ...



REGISTRATION
Andalusia/Greenville

Tuesday, August 14, 2001
8 a.m. - 6 p.m.
(All Students)

Classes Begin
Wednesday, August 15, 2001
LATE REGISTRATION
August 15-20, 2001

Andalusia 222-6591/Greenville 382-2133 (ext. 3101)

Jewel Box SALE

Jewel Box Anniversary Sale
begins today
Discounts throughout store

Jewel Box 897-2296 Downtown Elba

IT'S NEW AT COOK CHEVROLET!!



YEAR END CLOSEOUT 2001 Chevrolet Malibu

0.0% Interest on 36 months !!
2.9% Interest on 48 months !!
3.9% Interest on 60 months !!



Come see the
All New Chevrolet
!!! 2002 Avalanche !!!
The Ultimate Utility Vehicle



Now In Stock !!
The NEW
2002 Chevrolet Trailblazer
Completely redesigned



Come by today and see the sharp new vehicles now displayed in our showroom and on our lot.

COOK CHEVROLET

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